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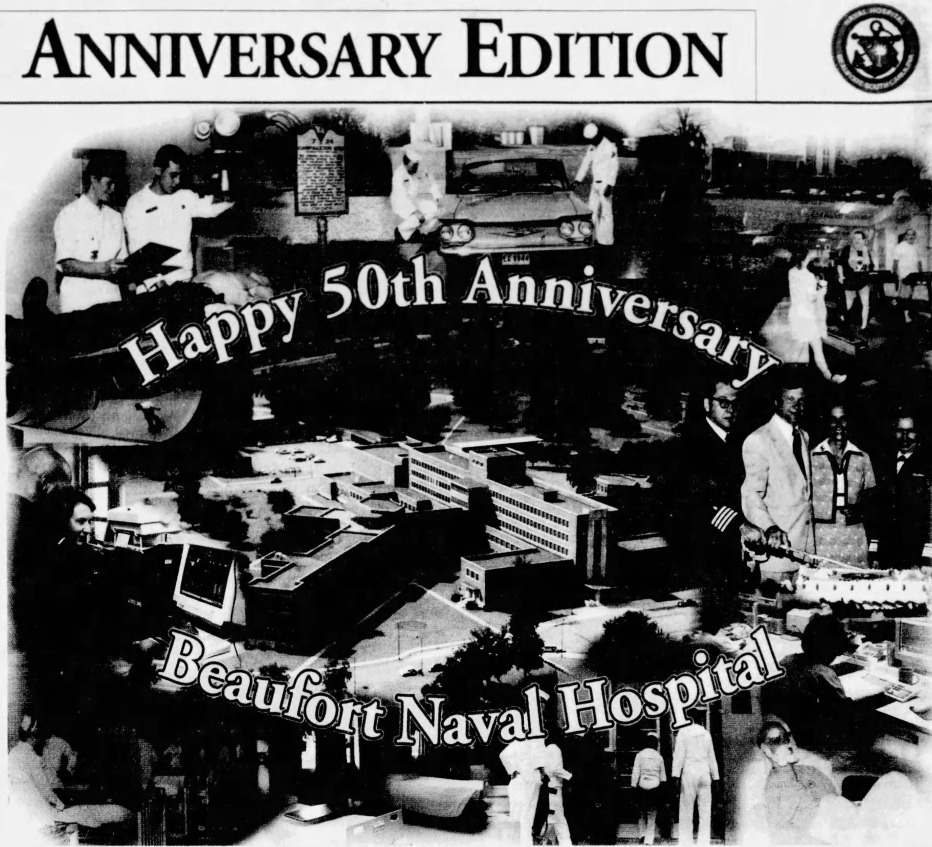
ANNIVERSARY EDITION

WEDNESDAY
Etc.

Ceremony is Thursday
The 50th anniversary will be marked on Thursday with an 11 a.m. ceremony at the hospital's main entrance. Guest speaker will be Rear Adm. Stephen Fisher, deputy Surgeon General of the Navy.
The Parris Island band will provide music for the event, which will include the hospital's youngest corpsman presenting a new U.S. flag to be raised during the ceremony, representing the next 50 years of the Naval Hospital.
A reception in the hospital dining area and tours of the hospital will follow. The ceremony is open to the public. Call 525-5301 if you would like to reserve a seat.

- Commanding officers**
- Capt. Leslie B. Marshall April 29, 1949 - July 18, 1950
 - Capt. T. H. Taber July 18, 1950 - Dec. 18, 1951
 - Capt. E.D. Hightower Dec. 18, 1951 - Feb. 10, 1954
 - Capt. O.L. Burton Feb. 26, 1954 - May 10, 1956
 - Capt. J.R. Reid Jr. May 10, 1956 - July 31, 1958
 - Capt. P.K. Perkins Sept. 1, 1958 - Feb. 28, 1961
 - Capt. P.G. Richards Feb. 28, 1961 - Aug. 3, 1962
 - Capt. L.L. Haynes Aug. 3, 1962 - Aug. 24, 1964
 - Capt. C.S. Hascall Jr. Aug. 24, 1964 - July 1, 1966
 - Capt. S.H. Horton Jr. July 1, 1966 - Aug. 1, 1970
 - Capt. R.G. Williams Jr. Aug. 1, 1970 - July 17, 1972
 - Capt. J.C. Hodges July 17, 1972 - May 17, 1974
 - Capt. C.W. Bramlett May 17, 1974 - July 15, 1977
 - Capt. D.C. Good July 15, 1977 - Aug. 3, 1979
 - Capt. W.R. Mullins Aug. 3, 1979 - Oct. 31, 1980
 - Capt. H.E. Shute Oct. 31, 1980 - July 14, 1982
 - Capt. J.L. Graves July 14, 1982 - June 21, 1984
 - Capt. C.A. Wesolowski June 21, 1984 - July 1, 1986
 - Capt. J.W. Baldwin July 1, 1986 - July 10, 1989
 - Capt. P.E. Campbell July 10, 1989 - June 29, 1992
 - Capt. R.L. Finkle June 29, 1992 - June 5, 1994
 - Capt. M.V. Brown June 5, 1994 - July 29, 1996
 - Capt. C.E. Adams July 29, 1996 - present

- Historic events**
- Hospital groundbreaking at 2 p.m. July 31, 1946
 - Hospital cornerstone laid at 3 p.m. July 18, 1947
 - Hospital commissioned at 11:55 a.m. April 29, 1949
 - Hospital colors raised at 11:58 a.m. April 29, 1949
 - Hospital command assumed at 11:58 a.m. April 29, 1949
- Naval Hospital firsts**
- First Navy patient admitted: HM1 Frank J. Clark, May 5, 1949
 - First Marine Corps patient admitted: Pvt. Jack G. Vargo, May 5, 1949
 - First Coast Guard patient admitted: SN Jack L. Minyard, May 21, 1949
 - First Air Force patient admitted: Staff Sgt. Charles L. McGorry, May 21, 1949
 - First Army patient admitted: 1st Lt. Milton D. Fox, May 21, 1949
 - First Veterans Administration patient admitted: Anthony Smalls, May 5, 1949
 - First military family patient admitted: Dorothy M. Flannigan, May 5, 1949
 - First retiree patient admitted: Retired USMC Master Sgt. George Beck, May 5, 1949
 - First birth: James Clark Carroll Jr., 3:11 p.m. May 9, 1949
 - First multiple births: Richard Arthur Cooley, 12:40 p.m., and David Gene Cooley, 12:50 p.m. May 14, 1949
 - First death: Retired USMC Gunery Sgt. Arthur Lewis Conwell, 1:35 a.m. May 29, 1949
 - First baptism in hospital chapel: Jesse Thomas Mackey, May 26, 1949
 - First marriage in hospital chapel: Navy HA Edward Herman Waymire to Rachel Ramona Pressley, Aug. 26, 1949
- Naval traditions**
- Residents living near the Naval Hospital often hear bugle warnings at 7:55 a.m. before the national flag is raised; five minutes before sunset before the flag is lowered; at 9:55 p.m. a warning call Tatedo; Taps at 10 p.m.



Hospital serves 35,000

By MARTI GATLIN
Gazette staff writer

Health care services provided to Beaufort's military population within the walls of the Naval Hospital's five-story, anchor-shaped brick building have changed many times in the past 50 years.

Active-duty members of the armed forces, retired military service members and their families living in the Lowcountry receive medical, surgical, emergency, outpatient and inpatient health care services at the hospital.

Officials estimate they serve 35,000 beneficiaries. The range and scope of services offered have been modified to meet the hospital's role during war or peacetime, they say.

Research, technology and funding also have played a part in shaping the way health care is delivered.

The main hospital complex and two Branch Medical Clinics — at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island and Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort — form Naval Hospital Beaufort.

About 150 people including doctors and corpsmen take care of recruits and military personnel in Parris Island's clinic, according to Capt. Clinton E. Adams, Naval Hospital commanding officer.

The staff handles 1,600 visits a month there, which include hearing tests and women's wellness education, he said.

At the MCAS Beaufort clinic, 15



ADAMS

doctors and technicians, augmented by seven flight surgeons and about 30 corpsmen, care for air station Marines and sailors.

Community contracts

To keep up with the ever-changing pace of health care, Adams cited recent and upcoming modifications for the hospital and its clinics.

Under a contract with Beaufort's public hospital that began last year, military babies are delivered at Beaufort Memorial Hospital instead of the Naval Hospital. The Naval Hospital still provides pre- and post-natal care for military mothers.

Adams said he and his staff are looking at contracting with Beaufort Memorial for inpatient care of children.

"Our volume is estimated to be between 60 and 80 patients a year," he said. "It's difficult for nurses and staff to switch back and forth from adults to little ones. It's a quality issue — it doesn't make sense to do what you don't have a lot of opportunity to do."

Adams said he expects to sign a contract with BMH by year's end for pediatric inpatient care. Equipment isn't the issue, but rather the lack of trained technicians or nurses.

Under the contract, "our pediatricians would be able to care for a

The range and scope of services offered have been modified to meet the hospital's role during war or peacetime.

greater variety of illnesses than they are currently because of the support services at Beaufort Memorial," he said. "Because of our limited support services, such as in pediatric respiratory care, we've had to transfer patients to MUSC."

"It's not cost-effective for me to pay a technician to do this 20 times a year."

Other contracts include a partnership with Coastal Carolina Surgical Associates for surgeons Tim Pearce, Perry Burns, Gordon Krueger and Steve Sisco. Adams said the group sees patients at the Naval Hospital, providing general same-day or overnight surgery.

The hospital also partners with Lowcountry Bone and Joint Surgery Sports Medicine Center and Spine Institute — orthopedic surgeons Leland C. Stockard, Robert Rhodin and Ed Blocker. They run a full-time orthopedic clinic at the hospital.

Other community doctors, John D. Rozich and Peter Manos, provide support in cardiac and pulmonary medicine, Adams said. Radiologist

Mary Jo Eline operates the Women's Imaging Center.

TRICARE is the reason for the partnerships.

"TRICARE is the Department of Defense's answer to rising health care costs and military base closures that include some hospitals. Title 10 of the U.S. Code, a health care law passed by Congress in 1980, drives TRICARE, and all military medical health care benefits."

"TRICARE allows me to make contracts to get coverage in areas we were not able to do before in resource sharing, such as getting specialists working in the hospital on a part-time basis," Adams said, noting that 12 civilian and 30 Navy doctors work at the Naval Hospital.

Next millennium

The commander said hospital officials hope to begin more partnerships in the future.

Establishing a primary care clinic for veterans run by the Veterans Administration, additional inpatient care at Beaufort Memorial Hospital and "multiple opportunities to leverage additional space in this building to community partnerships," are on Adams' list for the future.

A VA mental health clinic is held at the hospital one day a month.

"We want to keep this place full and do that any way legally possible to support the Navy and with community relationships, and we will explore avenues in this frame of mind," Adams said.

Renovations

Adams, who will turn 50 this year, talked about future projects to keep the hospital in line with the Navy's mission in Beaufort — helping to create Marines and deploying healthy forces worldwide.

Commander at the hospital since July 1996, he leaves in August to become head of the Naval Hospital in Naples, Italy. Capt. Gary Zuckerman, now executive officer of London Clinics in London, England, will replace him.

The Beaufort Naval Hospital's motto is "Readiness through Wellness," and a Health Education Lifestyle Planning (HELP) center is planned. It would be run by a family nurse practitioner and a nurse with a master's degree in community health.

"The idea behind HELP, he said, is that military families moving to Beaufort are invited to the center for a "tune-up," checking to see if annual exams or tests are current or need to be done and scheduling appointments.

"Rather than wait for them to get sick, we want to reach out to them," Adams said. "We want to be proactive instead of reactive."

To make sure area Marines and sailors are ready to deploy, hospital staff will focus on the whole healthy body concept — mental, moral, physical and spiritual well-being.

Public first toured new hospital 50 years ago

This story originally appeared in the U.S. Naval Hospital Beaufort Souvenir Edition of The Beaufort Gazette published on Thursday, April 28, 1949.



A view of Beaufort Naval Hospital, looking northeast, on June 15, 1948.

Considered a major unit in the Navy's network of permanent hospitals, it is patterned after the Houston Naval Hospital but is said to contain many improvements in its design.

Originally planned as a 300-bed hospital, its capacity at present is only 300. However, all

the facilities are present for the greater patient load and it will take only the constructions of two additional wings to complete the original plans.

Within the main building with its two connecting V-shaped wings are the principal administrative offices, sick rooms for officers, operating rooms, laboratories, X-ray rooms, and a section for dependents, among many others. The three-story wings contain wards for enlisted men with quiet rooms provided for those patients who may require them. Running almost the entire length of the wings, the wards will accommodate between 35 and 40 patients each. Space is also given to a large

glassed solarium and administrative offices in conjunction with each ward.

At the angled intersection of the main building with the wings are roof sun decks, partly covered by canopies, from which a beautiful view of the hospital grounds is visible.

The second building in size on the property is the U-shaped corpsmen's quarters which is located near the highway. Perhaps the most attractive of the smaller structures are the nurses quarters and the two-story bachelor officers' quarters, the latter of brick veneer and asbestos shingles with a sun porch on one side.

Near the main building are repair shops for automotive equipment; a filling station, fire station, carpenter, plumbing, and paint maintenance shops, and a large store house for supplies. A greenhouse where flowers are grown for use in the hospital rooms and for shrubbery has already gone into operation. Two gate houses, one at the main entrance and a second at the service entrance are among the smaller buildings.

Hospital has seen 50 years of change

By MARTI GATLIN
Gazette staff writer

When its doors opened in 1949, Beaufort's Naval Hospital had 300 beds. Today it has 20, and can expand to 120 if needed.

Located in Port Royal, the hospital complex sits on 127 acres of land bought by the federal government in 1945, according to historical records. The land is bordered on the east by the Beaufort River, on the west by Old Shell Road, and on the north and south by privately owned land.

Planning for Naval Hospital Beaufort began during World War II when a new hospital was needed for Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island.

Fort Frederick

Commissioned on April 29, 1949, the hospital was built on the former site of Fort Frederick, built by the English in 1735 for protection from Native Americans in the area and the Spaniards to the south. Designated a National Historical Site, the fort's remaining walls stand within the Naval Hospital compound.

The site later became the John J. Smith Plantation, and included a Civil War garrison. Camp Saxton (also known as Camp Shaw), which also is a National Historic Site today. The earliest federally authorized black unit to fight for the Union, the First South Carolina Volunteers, camped at this site.

On Jan. 1, 1863, Gen. Rufus Saxton assembled the populace for one of the earliest readings of the Emancipation Proclamation. A new re-enactment of the reading is held at the



HM3 Nolan Sallies prepares a bottle of prescription medicine at Parris Island Naval Hospital's pharmacy.

Camp Saxton site, along with a Civil War encampment, for hospital staff, the local community, tourists and other Lowcountry visitors.

The present hospital, costing \$9.5 million, replaced the Naval Hospital at Parris Island, which was open from 1881 through May 1, 1949.

Designed by Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson of Philadelphia, the hospital was built by Thompson and Street, a Charlotte firm.

When Naval Hospital Beaufort was completed, four reminders of its Parris Island history were installed there —

two historic plaques, a sun dial which had stood at the old hospital, and a ship's bell which for many years signaled fire alarms at Parris Island.

50 years of change

Many renovations have been made to repair or modernize the 361,658-square-foot building, according to an Intensive Survey of Historic Properties completed on the hospital complex in March 1996 by Thomason and Associates Preservation Planners of Nashville, Tenn.

The planners recommended a reassessment be done to determine if



This tabby marker notes the site of Fort Frederick, built by the English in 1735.

the hospital is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places when its main building turns 50 years old.

In 1961, the hospital's front was damaged by lightning and repairs were made. Its kitchen was remodeled in 1971 with new mechanical equipment.

In the early to mid-1970s a multimillion-dollar "Hospital Modernization Project" was initiated. It included replacement of most electrical and communications systems and acoustical tile ceilings, and new heating and cooling systems. Many interior partition walls were removed and new



HM-2 Ginger Linscheid, left, and mammographer Veronica Gray look at a patient's digital mammogram at Beaufort Naval Hospital.

reflective ceilings were installed.

The obstetrics/gynecology clinic was remodeled in 1984. The emergency room and laboratory were remodeled in 1988 and in 1995, with new partition walls and doors.

Naval Hospital Beaufort's revamped pharmacy, designed like a bank teller featuring one-stop shopping, opened in December 1996.

A fitness center, featuring a variety of exercise equipment and a large aerobic area, opened in September 1997 on the second floor. A year later the hospital opened a Health Promotion Division — a department that focuses on the overall mental and physical health of the Tri-Command family.

Naval Hospital Beaufort closed its first-floor mess hall in September 1998 after 49 years of serving staff, workers

and patients seven days a week. Patients are now served frozen meals supplemented with fresh fruits, vegetables and salads. The hospital contracted its Morale, Welfare and Recreation department to run the new operation.

A new Women's Imaging Center opened in December 1998 in the hospital's third-floor radiology department. Staff members perform breast screenings and non-surgical biopsies using a digital breast imaging machine.

Patients can receive screening and digital diagnostic mammography, breast ultrasound and core biopsies, and pelvic and obstetrical ultrasounds at the center. Other center features include a breast care hotline for quick access to information, an interactive computer to teach breast self-examination, and a lending library of books and videos on women's health issues.

Hospital endeavors to be good neighbor

By MARTI GATLIN
Gazette staff writer

Being a good neighbor in Beaufort County is part of Naval Hospital Beaufort's mission, officials say.

Taking care of people's well-being extends past the hospital's doors and into the community.

Staff members volunteer their time in several ways, according to Lt. Col. Bill Minor, hospital spokesman. Judging science fairs, mentoring at local schools and helping out with Beaufort's annual Water

Festival are among hospital members' community service activities, he said.

"Various hospital staff members are mentoring in schools," Minor said. "They help kids with homework and provide a positive role model. They're individuals giving back to the community on their own initiative."

Recently the Naval Hospital's Medical Service Corps began participating in the Adopt-A-Highway program. The corps is responsible for keeping a stretch of S.C. 280 clean, Minor said.



James Linsley fingerprints a child during IDENT-A-KID in 1997.

Several Navy officers also volunteer at the Franciscan Center on St. Helena Island.

Naval Hospital Beaufort also par-



Cmdr. Paul Drohan checks a young boy's ears.

ticipates in the YMCA Fitness Challenge and hosts the annual Emancipation Proclamation celebration on Jan. 1 each year.

Material in this special edition was prepared and coordinated by Marti Gatlin, who has been a reporter at *The Beaufort Gazette* since January 1996, covering a variety of topics including military and health issues. She also has reported on Port Royal, education, law enforcement, business and news from Jasper County.

Gatlin won two awards in the annual S.C. Press Association contest for newspapers state-

wide: a first in feature writing in 1996 for reporting on a day in the life of a Beaufort shrimp, and a second in 1997 for a photo story on an aircraft carrier where a Beaufort squadron was training. She served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 10 years.

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Opening day visitors served hospital kitchen's finest food

Commissioning officials and visiting dignitaries will be served regular hospital fare during their stay at the Beaufort Naval Hospital.

Their food will be the best quality that can be obtained, cooked in the most modern kitchen that science has devised.

The kitchen, or "galley," is departmentalized so that each cooking operation is a unit by itself. The conventional cook stove or range has been replaced here by three large deep fat fryers, five electric griddles which can cook 20 steaks each at a time, and huge rotary ovens.

For cooking vegetables there are six steam pressure cookers with a capacity of 30 pounds each. "Coppers," or double jacketed steam cookers, similar in function to a double boiler, can hold 100 gallons of soup, pot roasts or custards. Oversized salad bowls in which 150 salads can be tossed at one time, and a giant mixer with an 80-quart

These stories originally appeared in the U.S. Naval Hospital Souvenir Edition of The Beaufort Gazette published on Thursday, April 28, 1949.

capacity are part of the equipment used to prepare food for personnel and patients. And the problem of lifting large utensils has been solved by carts which can be used to wheel them about.

There are special food choppers for vegetables, an ice cream freezer, and an automatic donut machine which can turn out 90 dozen per hour.

In the cafeteria are electric toasters that toast 720 slices of bread an hour. Automatic cream dispensers on the coffee dispensing urns can be regulated for either "black" or "light" coffee.

Well-type electrically heated carts, preheated in the kitchen, are

sent to the wards where food is served to bed patients.

A special therapeutic diet kitchen under the supervision of a trained nurse-dietitian will care for approximately 15 percent of the patients. The equipment is almost a duplicate of the main galley on a small scale.

Assembly line production of food which still retain their bouquet and flavor is the goal of the kitchen staff. All equipment has been so arranged that there is no retracing of steps and food preparation can flow directly from the large refrigerators or storage rooms, through the preparation centers, to the cooking unit, and thence to the cafeteria. As the trays are emptied, hot food replaces them in a continuous process so that no warming

period is required.

Perishables are stored in either the freezer locker or one of the seven refrigeration rooms which open onto a central air locker, each with a temperature adjusted to keep foods at their best. A large storage room for canned goods and staples is located nearby. All refrigeration rooms are equipped with ultra-violet lights to aid in the prevention of food spoilage, and even the garage is refrigerated to 38 degrees in a "garbage locker" before it is collected and burned in the incinerator.

Food for the hospital is purchased through the Army Quartermaster market center in Columbia and the Navy market center in Virginia, according to Lt. L.E. Bond (MSC), USN, commissary officer. Included

in the first requisition to stock the newest Navy larder are such items as 900 pounds of butter; 2,000 pounds of chicken; 1,100 pounds of quick frozen dressed and drawn turkeys; 2,000 pounds of pork, Boston butts; 1,000 pounds of ham; 1,000 pounds of beef ribs; 2,500 pounds of beef, hotel cuts for steak; and 300 pounds of lamb.

John H. Jenkins, who has been employed as chief at the Parris Island Naval Hospital, will be transferred to the new hospital during the next year, after which he will have completed 30 years of civil service.

Memorabilia preserved

Four pieces of equipment long associated with the Parris Island Naval Hospital are being moved to the new hospital to be preserved for sentimental significance and to honor a retired admiral who presented the hospital with three of them many years ago.

A sundial and two plaques, the gift of Admiral Ammon Farnsworth, M.C. U.S.N., retired, are among the pieces to be retained when the Parris Island hospital is evacuated. A ship's bell, whose significance has been lost, will also be installed.

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Naval Hospital complex a mini-city

By MARTI GATLIN
Gazette staff writer

Like the two Beaufort military bases it serves, Beaufort Naval Hospital resembles a mini-city.

Within the grounds of the Naval Hospital are 53 family housing single-story units; two Bachelor Enlisted Quarters for 190 residents; a Navy exchange retail store, optical shop, barber/beauty shop and vending machines; a gas station, water tower, morgue and Mini Mart with package store.

The compound also has its own Fire Rescue Division and Public Works facility. Recreational facilities include Special Services Office, two softball fields, swimming pool, a lighted tennis and basketball courts, outdoor fitness course, fishing pier, children's playground, picnic area with sheltered barbecue sites and a club.

People entering the complex must pass recent landscaping. A dirt median with plants was removed near the main gatehouse and replaced with cobblestone brick, according to Lt. Cmdr Bill Minor, hospital spokesman.

New paving also is noticeable. Speed bumps were removed and parking spaces of the hospital's front circle were relined, he said. Other changes to the hospital complex include about 100,000 square feet of buildings demolished, according to commanding officer Capt. Clinton E. Adams.



Beaufort Naval Hospital's gas station and fire station provide services to residents and workers at the complex on the Beaufort River.

In 1997, the 1949-vintage barracks on the hospital grounds were demolished. The two-story World War II barracks were considered substandard under the Navy's new regulations.

The Navy paid National Environmental Services Corp. of Bloomington, Ind., \$437,000 to tear down a 29,727-square-foot building that housed Medical Corps personnel until it was condemned.

An old nurses' quarters, also used for administration, was leveled in 1998. Adams said, noting that the quarters and barracks were torn down because they were unsafe and

dilapidated. Other upgrades to Naval Hospital Beaufort's compound are a new 1.8-mile, asphalt jogging trail installed in February.

It's named the Heritage Trail, like the hospital's Naval Heritage Club and the Naval Heritage Park outside the gate that is dedicated to and owned by the Town of Port Royal, Minor said.

Built by the hospital's Public Works department, the jogging trail was put in for the health, welfare and fitness of staff, residents and other military personnel who use the base, he said.



Dawkins Hall, a residence for enlisted sailors, was named after Master Chief William Ellis Dawkins, former BNH senior enlisted member. It was completed in 1990.

Inside the hospital, builders are giving the third floor a \$1.2 million new look — to provide ambulatory care.

The work is part of a \$3.7 million life safety upgrades project, including sprinklers and clinical space for the primary care team, Adams said.

Expected to be completed in August, refurbishments by Beckman Construction of Fort Worth, Texas, include 18 closed-in exam rooms, nine doctors' offices, two treatment rooms, four nurses' offices and a staff lounge.

"This was an open bay ward during Vietnam and Korea for recuperating vets," Adams said. "After

Vietnam, the area, which had about 500 beds, was used for storage. We kept waiting for a war to have to use them again, so we decided on a better use."

In the last three or four years,

renovations such as \$2 million for new windows and air-conditioning system have totaled or exceeded the original cost of the Naval Hospital (\$9.5 million), he added.

Other renovations not part of the complex, but that fall under the Naval Hospital's purview, include knocking out walls to create a work center for a SMART (Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Therapy) clinic at Parris Island's Branch Medical Clinic.

Under contract with Parris Island's Public Works department for \$30,000 to \$35,000, the clinic will provide podiatry, physical therapy and sports medicine. Adams said the renovations should be finished in about three months.

The PT clinic building is 30 years old, and we're looking at a complete renovation and a probable addition, making it sports medicine to deal with injuries the way the modern world does," Adams said, noting that new clinics are slated for MCAS Beaufort's Branch Medical Clinic in fiscal 2004.

Hospital staff a part of U.S. Navy medical force

Special to The Gazette

Founded in 1942, the U.S. Navy's Medical Department is made up of more than 43,000 uniformed caregivers, according to information provided by Naval Hospital Beaufort.

Caregivers include about 4,000 physicians and 3,000 nurses; more than 2,700 Medical Service Corps officers; healthcare administrators and allied scientists such as optometrists, psychologists, dietitians and others; more than 1,600 dentists, 27,000 corpsmen and 3,500 dental technicians.

Nearly one-fourth of these healthcare providers are assigned to afloat units (ships, squadrons or afloat staffs) and to U.S. Marine Corps deployable units.

A Medical Corps vice admiral is the senior medical authority for the Navy and serves on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations. As the Navy's Surgeon General and Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED), he is in charge of setting — and implementing — medical policy for both Navy and Marine Corps. The current Surgeon General of the Navy is Vice Adm. Richard A. Nelson, who took the helm of Navy medicine on June 29, 1998.

Navy medical facilities are required to meet specific quality assurance standards as established by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. The JCAHO, an independent commission established in 1973, surveys and accredits hospitals in the United States, assessing each hospital's compliance with nationally recognized standards of health care.

The Navy Environmental Health Center is the Navy's equivalent of the Centers for Disease Control. It is responsible for tracking infectious diseases, for preventive medicine measures and for environmental and occupational health. Two Navy Disease Vector Ecology and Control Centers and four Environmental and Preventive Medicine Units help NEHC accomplish its mission.

The Navy medical community

had the opportunity to flex its own operational readiness capability during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. During those conflicts the Navy sent to the Middle East the most sophisticated medical equipment ever deployed for contingency support, treating more than 56,000 patients on five major medical platforms. More than 12,000 Navy health professionals were deployed to support the fighting forces.

USNS *Mercy* (T-AH 19) and USNS *Comfort* (T-AH 20), Navy medicine's two hospital ships, each with a 1,000-bed capability, deployed to the Persian Gulf within five days of being activated. Nearly 6,000 Navy medical personnel were ashore with Marine forces to provide preventive medicine support as well as basic medical support and combat casualty care.

The Navy had close to 100 ships in the area and each one carried Navy

medical personnel. Also, three 500-bed combat zone fleet hospitals were set up in the operational theater — two in Saudi Arabia and one in Bahrain. More reservists were called up from the medical community than any other Navy specialty. Altogether, nearly 10,500 medical reservists received recall orders, and the Navy had plans for calling 6,000 more when the war ended.

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Facility has treated wounded soldiers through two wars

By MARTI GATLIN

Gazette staff writer

Naval Hospital Beaufort has continued to provide health care during the 50 years since it opened, during war and peace.

During two wars in which the United States sent troops to defend its interests, the hospital treated wounded Marines and sailors.

In June 1950, South Korea was invaded by North Korean forces and American forces were drawn into the conflict. During the next several months, Navy and Marine casualties began arriving in the United States for treatment.

Beaufort's Naval Hospital received its first wounded on Jan. 19, 1951, according to historical records. When more wounded gradually began to arrive, the hospital added 75 more beds to its 300.

The hospital's peacetime status was restored in 1953 with the signing of the Korean War armistice.

In 1956 the opening of the Marine Corps Auxiliary Airfield in Beaufort brought more military personnel to the area. In 1960 the airfield was designated a Marine Corps Air Station.

For a few years the hospital remained in peacetime mode, caring



DUBBS

uprooted.

Warlike status loomed again when America became involved in the Vietnam War. Wounded Navy and Marine personnel were sent to Beaufort for treatment. According to historical records, the first war casualty treated at the hospital was Marine Pvt. Samuel Tillit, who was admitted on Sept. 23, 1965.

During 1966 the hospital received eight casualties, and hundreds more were admitted in the early 1970s.

Warlike medical specialist

Louise Dubbs remembers what it was like working at the hospital during the Vietnam War. Now an administration clerk under contract with the hospital, she worked in patient affairs from 1970-72.

for military service members and families. It weathered Hurricane Grace in September 1959 when the storm hit the Beaufort area. Much of the damage was to roofs and many of the hospital's trees were

"In 1970, many of the military personnel with whom I was working had been involved in Vietnam, and the atmosphere was one of people who were glad to be alive and back on safe soil."

— Louise Dubbs
BNH employee

"In 1970, many of the military personnel with whom I was working had been involved in Vietnam, and the atmosphere was one of people who were glad to be alive and back on safe soil," Dubbs said.

"Many of the Marines had convalesced at the Naval Hospital from wounds received in Vietnam, so while the rest of the country was in conflict over whether we should be in Vietnam, the Navy and Marine Corps personnel here were motivated in doing what was expected of them and would give their all if

needed," she added.

Near the end of the Vietnam War, Dubbs worked as a clerk-typist on medical records in Parris Island's Branch Medical Clinic from 1972-77. She recalled that training on the depot at that time was "high stress," with physical problems as well as hot weather making it a challenge to take the recruits from civilian life and start them on hard physical training.

"Death (rate) among the recruits was high at times, brought about by complications of heat stress," Dubbs said. "Physical training could trigger rhabdomyolysis — this resulted from the breakdown of muscle tissue through the kidneys, and the recruit would go into renal shutdown (when the kidneys stop functioning). Complications from that would cause death."

She noted that changes in training eliminated these physical disabilities. Dubbs worked in hospital patient affairs from 1977-81, was lead clerk in charge of health records at Parris Island's hospital from 1981-85 and from 1985-97 was at the main hospital. She retired in August 1997, only to return in July 1998 as a contract worker.

Dubbs said when the war in

Vietnam eventually ended, the need for physicians and the draft dropped, and money and Naval Hospital services became tight.

"The government began to economize and down-size," said the 64-year-old, who lives in Beaufort.

Postwar changes

Changes over the next few years, Dubbs said, included inpatient services fading away as patients were being referred to civilian facilities; administrative duties becoming more of a priority as computers were put into place, resulting in more reports; more regulations imposed on all medical facilities, with a corresponding increase in administrative duties.

"An ugly word called 'contracting out' began to pop up, and what it basically meant was that the government was getting out of the business of employing civil service employees," she said. "Eventually areas of the hospital were contracted out and now the majority of employees hired here are 'contract employees'."

The hospital again shifted gears — implementing TRICARE, becoming an outpatient clinic with outside referrals for major medical prob-

lems, establishing a social work department for family advocacy and an early intervention program for military families with infants born with disabilities, Dubbs said.

Smoking was discontinued in the hospital and on its grounds, she added.

Modern wars

Naval Hospital Beaufort continued to play a role in military efforts in the '90s. Medical staff organized and implemented support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm when area reservists were recalled to serve. In 1994, personnel from the hospital command were deployed to support Sigonella, Italy, and to operation Provide Promise in Croatia. Other hospital personnel were deployed to support Haitian refugees in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

"I am extremely proud to have been associated with the military all these years," Dubbs said. "There would be very few places to compare to my type of work experiences over my lifetime."

"One bright spot in my life was that my youngest son, David, was born at the Naval Hospital in 1964."

First African-American nurse recalls start at Beaufort Naval Hospital

Special to The Gazette

She made history her first day on the job. Zealee Smalls remembers the day she came to work as the first African-American nurse to be employed by Naval Hospital Beaufort.

The registered nurse retired from the hospital in 1997 after 33 years. She spent most of her time in the maternity ward, although she worked in other sections of the Naval Hospital.

Smalls now works as a part-time Beaufort-Jasper Comprehensive Health Services OB/GYN nurse counselor. She started with Comp Health in July 1998.

In those days, Smalls grew up on St. Helena Island in the midst of the segregation/integration-clashed South. After being part of the last class to graduate from the then Penn Normal, Industrial and Agricultural School, which is now Penn Center, she attended the all-black St. Augustine College in Raleigh, N.C., Vocational Division for the Board of



SMALLS

Education in Jersey City, N.J., and Armstrong State College in Savannah, Ga., to earn her nursing degree. Her first day was difficult at the hospital, recalled Smalls.

"It was kind of lonely," she said. "It was hard. I did a lot of praying, a lot of crying."

During her first days at the Naval Hospital, Smalls said she remembered not being asked to participate in a lot of activities.

"After awhile, a couple of people started including me in things," she said. "I was grateful for that. It made me feel a little bit more at ease."

"But I always knew that I had to know my job better than anybody else. If you know your job, then you feel secure and you don't mind if people talk or what they say," Smalls explained.

When she began her job, the maternity

ward was the only section in the hospital to hire civilian nurses.

She said she recalls when they had to make their own formula, and newborns were kept in long bins with dividers. Some of the children she helped to deliver and care for were or are now part of the hospital's staff.

"It's been a blessing to me," Smalls said. "I've learned a lot. It's made me stronger in many ways and it's made me more grateful."

Smalls said she had learned to endure a lot of things prior to starting at Naval Hospital Beaufort when she volunteered with the Southern Christian Leadership Council and its founder, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"He taught us to endure certain things," Smalls said.

During the civil rights movement, King used the then Penn Conference Center to meet and plan, and Smalls was on his staff. There, she said she was taught along with many others the importance of registering to vote and improving literacy. She even took

part in a sit-in in a Savannah restaurant.

"We knew we had a goal," she explained. "We knew there were things we had to accomplish and there's a way to do it without violence and without hatred."

Once she began at the hospital, her volunteer work was limited.

"I didn't know these people were going to be important — never took a picture with them," she said, laughing.

She and her husband, Arthur C. Smalls, have been married for 44 years and have four children, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Civilian employees who worked for the hospital when it opened in 1949 and still live in the Beaufort area include:

• Carl W. Anderson of Beaufort, a fireman and now owner of Anderson Funeral Home;

• Corrie D. Bazemore Collum of Beaufort, procurement;

• Tony Beatrice of Beaufort, retired Marine who worked on construction of the hospital;

• Clarence Bradley of St. Helena Island, gallery;

• Dorothy Brown of Port Royal, snack bar;

• Frank Chaplin of St. Helena Island, gallery;

• Mary Snipe Daniels of Beaufort, gallery;

• Howard J. Frame of Beaufort, guard;

• Lewis M. Gadsden of St. Helena Island, gallery;

• Nathan Gadsden of St. Helena Island, gallery;

• Benjamin Glover of St. Helena Island, gardener;

• Dorothy Hall Hodges of Beaufort, gallery office;

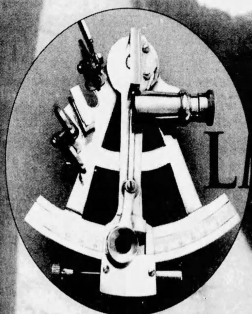
• Willie Jones of Burton, gallery;

• Tony Parker of Port Royal, gallery foreman;

• Kenneth D. Peeples of Beaufort, electrical and air conditioning shops;

• Rosa Scott of St. Helena Island, worked on one of the wards; and

• Herman Smalls of St. Helena Island, public works.



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BEAUFORT NAVAL HOSPITAL

Naval hospital replaces Parris Island hospital, closed after 59 years' service

By Lt. JAMES R. JONES
Public Information Officer

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT, Parris Island — When Old Glory is unfurled tomorrow over the latest monument to the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, it will mark another milestone in the United States Navy's paramount role in the history of the beautiful Sea Islands. However, in the enthusiasm of the official commissioning ceremonies, we are prone to overlook a rapidly fading Naval establishment that has faithfully served the nation for the past 59 years.

Just across Battery Creek in Port Royal Sound and in full view of the Beaufort Naval Hospital lies the U.S. Naval Hospital on Parris Island. Here, in the large two-story wooden building constructed years ago by contractors employing many of the residents of Beaufort and the surrounding area, deactivation is in the final stages. Very soon, the long chapter will be written in its long and glorious service to the fighting men of America.

Progress, by its very nature, looks to the future, and is significant of the hospital commissioned today. Viewed in this perspective, history too, deserves its place in the annals of Naval tradition. It is only proper that we pay due tribute to a Naval Shore establishment that has served its country in its own capacity as faithfully as the battleships of the "fleet."

The first Naval Medical activity on Parris Island dates back to 1891, and was established by Assistant Surgeon Lewis Young. Prior to that time, the only Naval activity on the Island was a coaling station equipped with a steam launch and operated by six men. The launch's crew consisted of one engineer (presumably white), and the coxswain, two deck hands, one fireman, and two carpenter's mates, who were Negroes.

During this period, a native of Beaufort County, Apothecary Gowan Hazel, entered the picture. The time of his arrival on Parris Island is uncertain, but it is known that he was a Civil War soldier prior to entering the Navy. While on Parris Island, Hazel worked in the medical center where he utilized one building in which he lived and from which he dispensed drugs.

In 1893, a great catastrophe occurred. On Sunday, August 27, a tidal wave swept the Island. During the period of high water, Hazel was drowned while heroically attempting to rescue the grandchild of a Negro minister, the Reverend W. Green.

There is very little information

BRIEFS

Bull ensign tradition

The senior ensign of Naval Hospital Beaufort (the ensign with the most time in that rank) has duties including guarding a set of mounted bull horns. Hospital personnel try to take it away, and if the ensign loses the horns he or she must perform unpleasant tasks until they are recovered. The Naval Hospital horns have taken plane rides to Aviano, Italy, and to Bosnia, and photos showing them in the faraway locations sent back to the unlucky caretaker.

The briefs below originally appeared in the U.S. Naval Hospital Souvenir Edition of The Beaufort Gazette published on Thursday, April 28, 1949.

Wheelchair drivers aided by new ramps

All sidewalks at the new Naval Hospital are equipped with wheelchair ramps.

Electric device locates doctors in hospital

A doctor's in-and-out system consisting of a panel in the main lobby is provided to indicate which members of the staff are in the hospital building. There is also a doctor's paging system by means of which the telephone operator can set up on a machine a code number which flashes on boards throughout the building. The person whose number is being flashed need only pick up the nearest phone to receive the message from the operator.

Navy trains landlubbers

Ninety percent of Naval personnel trained by the Pacific Fleet Training Command had never been to sea before.

This story originally appeared in the U.S. Naval Hospital Souvenir Edition of The Beaufort Gazette published on Thursday, April 28, 1949.

available from the time of the tidal wave until the war with Spain. At this time it became necessary to establish a larger and more adequate hospital, and it is believed that a Dr. Stuart was in command during the expansion of facilities.

In the early summer of 1898, two portable buildings of wood and canvas construction were received and erected. Then in the late summer of the same year the two wards, representing the first efforts at a hospital, were destroyed by a severe tornado.

The wards were replaced by frame structures, and within a short time a small but crude operation room was added. This was to be known as the U.S. Naval Hospital, Port Royal.

On March 4, 1899, the first general register of patients was begun. For the remainder of that calendar year (1899), sixteen patients were admitted. On April 12, 1899, Coxswain Robert Hennessy, USN, was admitted to the hospital with a diagnosis of "Tuberculosis, Pneumonia, Acute." After 57 sick days, he was discharged to duty at the Naval Station, Port Royal.

On September 12, 1899, Coxswain Hennessy was readmitted to the hospital with the same previous diagnosis, with the exception that this time "Acute" was changed to "Chronic." Hennessy remained a patient in the hospital until his death on December 6, 1899. It is of interest to note that entered under "remarks" in the first general register of patients, the origin of Hennessy's disease was "duty" — "from an act of bravery in the line of duty; Exposure to weather." Thus, the first recorded death at the hospital resulted from an act of bravery.

In 1915, the Naval Station was

turned over to the Marine Corps by the Navy Department to be used in training Marine recruits. It then became necessary to immediately consider plans for enlargement of the hospital facilities to care for the Marines who were and would be trained or stationed on Parris Island.

The contract was let in March, 1917, to the Newport Engineering and Construction Company. One building was constructed containing two wards of 22 beds each, a quiet room, diet kitchen, laboratory, specialist's room and a small brig.

The month of February, 1918, witnessed an increase in personnel to approximately 12,000, and since the Marines were actively engaged in sending detachments to the war area in France, plans for enlargement of hospital facilities were advanced.

Although not completed in time to be of use during the remaining years of the war, construction was completed in April, 1919, on an additional four ward building, accommodating 99 patients, a nurses quarters, and an office building. From 1919 to 1941, there was little actual building done. In the summer of 1940, plans were completed for construction of three "H" type wards, with a bed capacity of 60 beds each and other buildings necessary for the housing of personnel and facilities.

As plans were being drawn up, another disaster struck, for on August 11, 1940, a hurricane hit the Island and destroyed three old buildings, damaged the isolation ward, and caused considerable water damage. Plans were immediately changed to include the repair of the damaged buildings, and the contract let to the Angle Construction Company. This building program was completed in 1944, and cost a million dollars.

With the entry of the United States into World War II, the major problem was that of making buildings with inadequate bed capacity accommodate a greatly increased patient load and at the same time

maintain the high standard of medical care characteristic of Naval Hospitals.

The patient load of the hospital continued to rise during the war as more and more men entered service. The average daily patient load increased steadily and on August 18, 1945, the maximum census was registered at 796. The average strength of the Marine Corps recruit depot during this period was 15,324.

The hospital today consists of 53 buildings situated on 15 acres of land, twelve of which are high ground and three are marshland. The remainder of the Island, approximately 7,000 acres, is utilized by the Marine Corps for "Boot" training of Marine recruits.

On May 5, the patients now treated at the hospital will be transferred to the new establishment, and the transfer of all doctors, nurses, corpsmen, and civil service workers will be effected to coincide with the move.

Through three armed conflicts in which this nation has been an active participant, the hospital has continued on its mission of mercy. For its faithful service throughout fifty-nine years, the U.S. Naval Hospital at Parris Island deserves from the Navy Department, the national military establishment, and from the American people a "well done."



The look of the '50s



Medical wards at Beaufort Naval Hospital looked like this during the 1950s.



Wishes to congratulate the men and women of
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